

be better to increase the size of the President's tax cut and get that money out of Washington and out of the hands of politicians. But some in this body are very ho-hum about tax cuts. They say that we do not need them, that we should keep that money here so it can be spent. Keep in mind that the American people already spend more every year on taxes than they do on food, clothing, shelter and transportation combined.

Mr. Speaker, the American people need, deserve and should get a tax cut. If done soon enough, it will help stimulate the economy.

HONORING THE LIFE OF KAYLA ROLLAND

(Mr. PASCRELL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I think it is appropriate to take a moment this morning to honor little Kayla Rolland. As a father and grandfather, I can understand the love that Kayla's family feels for her. Six-year-old Kayla was gunned down in a playground in Michigan 1 year ago. Her killer, a classmate in the first grade, had found a loaded gun at home. The tragic death of little Kayla has shaken us all and must force us to ask the question, how can we allow these gun-related tragedies to happen and not respond? Kayla's fate is not uncommon.

Mr. Speaker, do my colleagues know that more than 800 Americans die each year from guns shot from children under the age of 19? Do they know that the rate of firearm deaths of children 1 to 14 years of age is nearly 12 times higher in the United States than in all of the top 25 industrialized countries? If they did not know that, they should.

Whether it is childproof guns, whether it is personalized weapons, we need to come together on both sides of the aisle to do something that makes common sense.

PRESIDENT'S BUDGET IS RESPONSIBLE FOR AMERICA'S FAMILIES

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, President Bush this week released his budget, a budget which is fashioned in the same way that you and I and millions of Americans figure out their home monthly budget.

First, it funds our priorities, including education, health care, Social Security, Medicare and Defense.

Secondly, it pays down the Nation's debt, providing the greatest amount of debt reduction in U.S. history.

Third, the budget includes a \$1 trillion contingency fund to ensure that

the United States can meet any unforeseen or emergency funding burden.

Finally, the money left over is returned to the hard-working people of America through responsible tax relief that will not only encourage savings, but also spur continued economic growth.

This budget is responsible. It is visionary, and it is right for our future.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the criticism of those who refuse to act in responsibly and simply want a frivolous way to spend America's tax dollars on more wasteful big government bureaucracy.

RECORD ADDICTION PROBLEM OF THE WORLD IN THE UNITED STATES

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, another underground tunnel was found on the Mexican border with a half of a ton of cocaine in it. Dug by hand, the tunnel connected a home to a sewer system, ultimately to Mexico.

Now if that is not enough to dust an angel. This is the sixth tunnel found since 1995. Think about it, kids are strung out on heroine and cocaine all across America, while drug pushers are running relay races with backpacks full of narcotics under and across our borders and Congress does nothing, because it is sensitive politically.

Beam me up. Beam me up here. Shame, Congress. American children are strung out, and I yield back a record addiction problem of the world in the United States of America.

THE PRESIDENT'S TAX REDUCTION PLAN

(Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, the President is today out in the heartland of America promoting his tax reduction plan, and it sparked a very interesting debate.

Everybody agrees that the money is going to be spent. The only argument is who is going to spend it, the hard-working American taxpayer who earned it or the bureaucrats in Washington who have taken it from them in higher than necessary taxes.

Mr. Speaker, the argument is very simple. There is going to be a lot of rhetoric about this, but cut through the rhetoric and listen to what they are saying. What they are saying is that you who earned it are too dumb to spend it wisely, so because they care so much for you, they are going to keep your money, rather than give it back to you, because if they gave it back to

you, you would not spend it wisely and bureaucrats in Washington will spend it more wisely than you will.

I do not think the average American believes that, Mr. Speaker, and I think that the proposed tax cut is even too small. It is going to leave too much money on the table. And if it is there, the bureaucrats in Washington are going to spend it, and we ought to give it back to the people. They earned it, and they will spend it better than we will.

DEFEAT H.R. 333, THE SO-CALLED BANKRUPTCY REFORM BILL

(Mr. KUCINICH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, Americans are told do not leave home without it. But if you overuse it, you can lose your home, or you can lose everything inside your home with it. I am speaking about H.R. 333, the so-called bankruptcy reform bill, which is up today for a vote on this floor.

This bill is a direct threat to American consumers and businesses. The so-called bankruptcy reform bill will hurt American families in financial crisis by subjecting them to an inflexible standard based on IRS collection guidelines.

The bill contains inflexible deadlines, excessive filing requirements, which would needlessly force viable businesses into liquidation. Had it been law a few weeks ago, it would have made impossible the reorganization of LTV Steel in Cleveland, resulting in its liquidation at the cost of 5,000 jobs.

In this bill, protections of household goods against liens have been decimated. Home security computers for adult education, firearms even for subsistence, hunting could be seized by a business or the IRS because of this change.

Defeat H.R. 333.

IDEA FULL FUNDING ACT OF 2001

(Mr. GARY MILLER of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, today I will be introducing the IDEA Full Funding Act of 2001. I would like to thank my 27 colleagues who have already joined me in supporting this important measure.

In 1975, the U.S. Congress passed the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, IDEA, mandating that local school districts provide appropriate education to students with special needs. Realizing that this could be a costly endeavor, Congress agreed to fund up to 40 percent of the average per pupil expenditure.

However, to date, Congress has only provided States with 14.9 percent of the

funds promised. We need to do a better job of keeping the IDEA promise, and I am proposing that we strive to meet this goal.

My bill will achieve the 40 percent level in 2011. By steadily increasing funds over the next 10 years, we would demonstrate our commitment to our local school districts and practice fiscal prudence.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in meeting the IDEA promise.

EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE COMMITTEE BOYCOTT

(Mr. RODRIGUEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I am deeply concerned about the decision of the Committee on Education and the Workforce to split the higher education issues.

I take offense that the higher education issues affecting Hispanic-serving institutions and historically black universities and colleges are not considered as mainstream, and, therefore, the bias-skewed mentality found it necessary to group them with such disparate issues as juvenile justice, runaway youths and other social issues.

It is a form of segregation and placing blame and blaming the victim. I am really concerned that the mentality that created the proposal is one that is placing blame rather than acknowledging that we all have a problem, that we all need to take ownership, that we all need to solve the issue and not designate it as a problem that belongs to one group or another, given that our Hispanic-serving institutions and our historically black colleges and universities are assisting youth and people throughout the country to make sure that they meet the challenges of the 21st century.

I have spoken to my universities back home, and they are seriously concerned with what has happened in the Committee on Education and the Workforce and, therefore, I ask the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BOEHNER), the chairman of the Committee on Education and the Workforce, to reconsider this decision and let us make sure that every child is not left behind.

□ 1015

URGING SUPPORT FOR THE PEACE CORPS PROGRAM

(Mr. WALSH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, today marks the 40th anniversary of the Peace Corps. Thirty years ago, I left my very comfortable middle-class home in Syracuse, New York for a

thatched hut with a mud floor in the foothills of Nepal. I made a lot of friends. I gained a lot more knowledge than I imparted.

But today, I stand before my colleagues, among other Members of Congress, who served in the Peace Corps. Many of us are back home providing productive lives and leadership throughout many sectors of our country.

The knowledge of the world that these Peace Corps, former Peace Corps volunteers provide becomes more and more valuable as the world gets smaller. Congress needs to continue its strong support for this program. There are benefits certainly to the world in terms of better international relations, and it provides a constant infusion of new leaders to our country.

So, Mr. Speaker, I urge strong support for the continued Peace Corps program.

JUST DO IT

(Ms. WOOLSEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, just do it. Go ahead, return the historically black colleges and universities and the Hispanic-serving universities to the subcommittee where they belong, the subcommittee that has jurisdiction over higher education, the Subcommittee on 21st Century Competitiveness, the subcommittee for this century.

Separating historically black, Hispanic, and tribal institutions from the higher education subcommittee is insulting. It is harmful. It takes us back to the 19th century.

The Republicans' decision is insulting and harmful. It is harmful to our colleagues. It is harmful to the institutions, to the students, and those who attend them, and it is harmful to our Nation.

What good reason could there be for not changing this decision? There is no good reason. Just do it.

STEEL REVITALIZATION ACT

(Mrs. JONES of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to discuss the steel crisis which has forced American steel producers like LTV Corporation in my city into bankruptcy. Today under the leadership of the gentleman from New York (Mr. QUINN), we will introduce, along with the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. VISCLOSKEY), the Steel Revitalization Act.

The aim of this legislation is to aid American steel producers through import relief, legacy cost sharing, adjust-

ing the Steel Loan Guarantee Program, and providing incentives to consolidate. We hope this legislation will help all steelworkers.

The flood of illegally subsidized foreign steel into American markets have caused our companies to declare bankruptcy at alarming rates.

I find it somewhat ironic that we are introducing the Steel Caucus package on the same day the House is expected to debate the bankruptcy reform.

Estimates of the cost of the economic impact of losing LTV in Cleveland show that the steel maker pays \$338 million in annual wages and salaries and \$68 million in benefits.

I urge my colleagues to support the Steel Revitalization Act and would press the House leadership to bring this legislation to the floor quickly.

EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE SUBCOMMITTEE JURISDICTIONS

(Mr. ACEVEDO-VILÁ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ACEVEDO-VILÁ. Mr. Speaker, the exclusion of minority higher education issues from the Subcommittee on 21st Century Competitiveness is a step backward. Congress must take a step forward and combine all higher education programs into one subcommittee.

In my district, Puerto Rico, I am proud to represent 46 institutions of higher education, both public and private, and comprised of over 174,000 students. Compared to many districts, my schools are permanently populated by minority students, and I am here to raise their voice in opposition.

By targeting minorities and placing them in a separate subcommittee with at-risk youth, child abuse, and domestic violence connotes that minorities are a problem in our society, when in reality it is the mixing of many cultures that make this Nation strong.

As minorities grow in numbers and influence our country, we have not forgotten our roots or the pain or discrimination of being ignored or left behind. Minorities seek and demand the same high quality education as the rest of the society. This exclusionary action lessens the quality and promotes ignorance.

I join my fellow colleagues today to let our voice be heard, our presence be known.

SEPARATE BUT EQUAL IS NOT ACCEPTABLE IN AMERICA

(Ms. MCCOLLUM asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today, I am giving my first speech on the House floor. It is a great privilege to be